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United States Environmental Protection Agency
Pollution Report

I. HEADINGS

DATE: March 27, 2000

SUBJECT: Pollution Report for the Windham Alloys Site, Windham, Portage
County, Ohio

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POLREP 1 - Initial (Removal - Funded)

II. BACKGROUND

Site No:	B5E5
NPL Status:	Non-NPL
Response Authority	CERCLA
State Notification:	OEPA
Start Date:	March 13, 2000
Completion Date:	TBD
Latitude:	41° 14' 48" N
Longitude:	81° 03' 45" W
CERCLA Incident Category:	Fund Lead-Removal Action

III. SITE INFORMATION

A. Incident Category:

Fund Lead- Removal Action

B. Site Description:

1. Site location and background

The WA site is located at 9215 Center Street (State Route 303) in Windham, Portage County, Ohio. The WA site consists of an unfenced parcel of land located to the immediate north of the former WA manufacturing facility. The WA site is bordered to south by the former WA manufacturing facility and State Route 303, to the west and east by unnamed drainage ditches, and to the north by wetlands and undeveloped land. The area of concern at the site is the unfenced northern portion of the site where waste materials were reported to have been illegally disposed. Other site features include two site drainage ditches (site ditches) that originate at the northern end of the manufacturing facility and interconnect with the eastern unnamed drainage ditch at the northern end of the site. In addition, the WA site is located approximately 400 feet to the west of the public drinking water well field that is used by the Village of Windham.

The WA site is the location of a former metal molding and manufacturing facility. The portion of the site that housed the former molding and manufacturing operations is currently for sale or lease by the property owner. A small business currently rents and occupies one of the on-site buildings.

In 1995, the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA) began investigating the site as a result of anonymous referrals of illegal waste handling activities being conducted at the site. A company named Extrusions and Alloys, Inc., operated their business at the property under a lease agreement with the property owner, Mr. Tony Rubino. Mr. Rubino is the current property owner. In 1996, after inspecting the facility, Ohio EPA noted no violations at the site.

In March of 1998, continued reports of illegal dumping at the site prompted Ohio EPA to continue their investigation. The suspected waste materials that were illegally dumped included lead dross, a by product of lead smelting and chromic acid, which was used to clean metal prior to melting it.

On November 24 and 25, 1998, Ohio EPA conducted exploratory test trench excavations at the site. During the test trenching, Ohio EPA excavated over one hundred 5-gallon waste containers and a few 55-gallon waste containers. Ohio EPA collected 21 samples from the contents of the buried waste containers. The majority of the samples collected were analyzed and were determined hazardous for leachable lead and chromium per Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) regulatory limits.

On December 15, 1998, Ohio EPA ordered the property owner to remove the buried hazardous materials from the ground. On April 28, 1999, Ohio EPA requested U.S. EPA's assistance in pursuing a clean-up of the Windham Alloys site. Ohio EPA believes that anywhere from 700 to 2,700 containers were buried close to the ground surface. Of further concern are the City of Windham's drinking water well field, located within 400 feet of the buried waste. On August 5, 1999, U.S. EPA obtained an administrative warrant to conduct site assessment activities at the WA site. The Ohio EPA is currently proceeding with its ongoing criminal investigation.

From August 31, 1999, through September 2, 1999, U.S. EPA and Superfund Technical Assessment and Emergency Response Team (START) members conducted a site assessment at the WA site. A geophysical survey was conducted over the potentially impacted area (approximately 45,150 square feet). In addition, START collected six surficial soil samples and six sediment samples from random locations. Sample analysis indicated that elevated and hazardous levels of lead and chromium were present in soil and sediment near the waste

disposal area.

2. Description of threats:

Analytical results obtained by Ohio EPA and START have indicated the presence of TCLP lead and chromium within the soil and sediments at the WA site. In addition, during the Ohio EPA site assessment and associated exploratory test trenching activities, approximately one hundred 5-gallon waste containers and a few 55-gallon waste containers were excavated. The containers were found to be in poor condition and releasing their contents into the soil. Based on the Ohio EPA work and from the results of the START geophysical survey, several buried waste containers are known to exist throughout the site. The buried hazardous waste poses a continued threat of release to soil and groundwater.

3. Previous Response Activities

None.

IV. RESPONSE INFORMATION

A. Situation

1. Current situation

On March 20, 2000, U.S. EPA, START, and the Emergency and Rapid Response Team (ERRS) contractor, Earth Tech, Inc., mobilized to site to begin removal activities at the WA site.

2. Removal actions to date:

On March 13, 2000, U.S. EPA, START, and ERRS met at the WA site to conduct site reconnaissance.

On March 20, 2000, ERRS mobilized personnel and equipment to the WA site. ERRS began to establish the command post and the decontamination line. U.S. EPA and START reviewed and edited the draft health and safety plan (HASP) prior to finalization.

On March 21, 2000, ERRS continued to mobilize equipment and establish the command post and decontamination line. In addition, ERRS began to establish site control zones, initiated coordination transportation and disposal, procured a laboratory, and established a waste staging pad. START conducted a survey of the tentative excavation area to determine surface elevations, which will be utilized to determine the volume of waste excavated from site.

On March 22, 2000, ERRS finalized the HASP, installed construction fence around the excavation area, and finished the establishment of site control zones. In addition, a water management plan was developed to address drainage from the excavation area. Two earthen (clay) dams will be installed to cut off flow of water to the drainage ditches surrounding the excavation area.

On March 23, 2000, ERRS installed a gate entry system, began to separate non-hazardous debris from the excavation area, mobilized off-site a clay to site, and installed a clay dam at eastern perimeter of excavation area. START field screened a sample collected from a local residence well for chromium, which

indicated a chromium concentration of 0 ppm. The sample was sent to North Coast Environmental Laboratories for total lead and chromium analysis.

On March 24, 2000, ERRS began construction of the second clay dam. ERRS also constructed an additional drainage trench to handle potential storm water runoff from surrounding areas. Analytical results were received from the residential well sample that was collected on March 23. No elevated levels of lead or chromium were detected. The site was secured for the weekend.

B. Next Steps

- Complete removal and disposal of non-hazardous debris.
- Complete installation of a second clay dam.
- Begin test excavations to identify other potential disposal areas.
- Conduct XRF screening of site soil and water.
- Begin excavation and staging of contaminated material.
- Arrange for transportation and disposal of hazardous wastes.

C. Key Issues

- An administrative order for access was issued by U.S. EPA and complied with by the property owners.
- Due to flooding concerns at the nearby well field, a temporary drainage ditch was established while site work is active.

V. Cost Information (Costs as of 3-23-00)

ERRS	\$ *Costs are not yet available as of 3-23-00.
U.S. EPA	\$3,744.60
<u>START</u>	<u>\$3,405.20</u>
Total	\$7,149.80 not including ERRS cost.